

Interpretive

Pokagon State Park

450 Lane 100, Lake James

Angola, Indiana 46703 260-833-2012

Programs:

And Other Park Events!

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December, 2006

Potawatomi Inn Activities!

There are numerous activities that take place at the Potawatomi Inn. Too cold to go outside, Then the craft room has all the fun you need! Whether you just want a simple bracelet to take back to the room, or something a little more complex. Drop on by or check the activities schedule by the main desk and start planning a fun filled day!



Whether it's business or pleasure, the Potawatomi Inn has what you need...

Programs designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages!

Catch this and all of your favorite Interpretive Schedules at:

www.interpretiveservices.in.gov



Saturday December 2

- 10:30am **Geocaching Jaunt.** Learn how to use a GPS receiver, how to geocache, and even find your own geocache in this one hour hike. Meet at the Nature Center Front Deck. Good family fun! BB
- 1:30pm **Pokagon Prairie Planting.** Join us and volunteers from the Blue Heron Ministries as we plant native grass and flower seeds that have been collected in our county, out at the former site of the old Pokagon Motel. We'll meet at the Nature Center Parking Lot from where we will car pool out to the motel site at the far reaches of Trail 9. We'll be gone about 1 ½ hours. We'll have a fire and refreshments at the site. FW

Sunday December 3

- 8:30am **Fresh Air Walk.** Bring binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours, and meet in the Inn hallway by the coffee machine. We'll bundle up and head outside for a search of waterfowl and any other birds that come our way. We'll first check out the shores of Lake James and then head into the park's interior to explore the County Road Marsh. Join us for this fun jaunt in the fresh, early morning air! FW
- 10:30am **Critter Feeding Time.** This morning, our resident turtles, frogs, and snakes will be getting their bi-weekly meal. Stop on by the Nature Center Auditorium for an informal hour of amazement! Watch them eat, or maybe feed them yourselves! DH

Saturday December 9

- 10:00am **Hell's Point Bound!** It's the highest point in the park and we'll visit it and other natural features along the way on this 1 ½ hour hike. Meet the Interpreter at the historic Spring Shelter. (Parking is available above the shelter if you're driving from the Inn) FW
- 2:00pm **Scatology!** Scatology is the study of what?! Come to the Nature Center Auditorium and get the poop (if you know what we mean) on how we can identify animals by what they leave behind. Prizes for those who know their poop! BB



Sunday December 10

- 8:30am **Junco Jaunt!** Will we see some juncos, or snowbirds, this morning? Find out by joining us for our traditional Sunday morning walk. Bring your binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours, and meet inside the Inn Sun Deck by the coffee pots. We'll be out for 1 to 1 ½ hours. Join us! BB

More Programs on the Back!

Nature Center School Season Hours:

1:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. Wednesday through Friday

10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. Weekends & Holidays

Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, through the winter months.

Nature Center will be open during Christmas Break from 10am-5pm.

Interpretive Programs and other park events... cont'd

Saturday December 16

- 10:00am **Winter Wetland Wander.** Gather at the Inn Lobby by the front desk. We'll then take off on a short walk down into the Potawatomi Nature Preserve and investigate the wetlands surrounding Lake Lonidaw and those around the two bridges of Trail 3. We'll be back within an hour. FW
- 2:00pm **Life In the Cold.** Come to the Warmth of the Nature Center Auditorium where we will discuss how Pokagon creatures tough it out through our cold northern Indiana winters. DH

Sunday December 17

- 8:30am **Woodpecker Walk** Join the interpreter for our traditional Sunday morning bird hike. Bring binoculars if you have some or borrow a pair of ours. We'll meet inside the Potawatomi Inn Sun Deck by the coffee pots. Total time 1 to 1 ½ hours. Join us! BB



Friday December 22

- 4:00pm **Winter Solstice Saunter.** Meet the interpreter for a hike on this shortest day of the year. We'll meet at the Potawatomi Inn Main Lobby then hike into our relaxing pine stands to see what other animals are doing on this dark day. We'll be back within an hour. BB

Saturday December 23

- 9:00am **Toboggan History Hike.** Imagine careening around curves and avoiding trees... not so hard to believe if you were tobogganing with the early boys of the CCC! Meet at the Inn Main Entrance for a short hike up the toboggan track. We'll be discussing the early history of the track as well as its popularity today. The hike will end at the top of the track for those wanting to get in line for the 10am opening. BB
- 2:00pm **A Christmas Treat for the Birds.** Feed the birds from your tent, camper, or home using this easy to make pine cone bird feeder. A fun project for all ages. Meet at the Nature Center. BB

Sunday December 24

Please note the Nature Center will close at 3pm today!

- 9:00am **8th Annual X-mas Eve Winter Trek!** You say you got the shopping done! Great, now how about a hike through the park's interior to relax and enjoy the spirit of the season. Meet in the Inn Lobby for a 1 1/2 hour hike back to the Spring Shelter and back. We'll go through beautiful pine forests and cut through a quiet campground. Join us for this annual tradition! FW



Monday December 25 Merry Christmas!

Nature Center will be Closed Today



Tuesday December 26

Nature Center Open Today 10am-5pm.

Wednesday December 27

- 10:30am **An Inconvenient Truth-The Movie.** Gather at the Nature Center Auditorium for a special showing of the much-acclaimed environmental film featuring former Vice-President Al Gore and his collection of research on global climate change. Through his personal insight, research of others, and a variety of images you will see the powerful story of our Earth's changes and the hope we have to help. Length of movie is about 90 minutes. Popcorn provided! FW

Thursday December 28

- All Day **27th Annual Pokagon Christmas Bird Count.** For serious birders, it's our annual, all-day, big event! Prior registration required. Contact the Nature Center by December 26th. 260-833-2012.

Friday December 29

- 10:00am **Post-Christmas Birding.** Join the naturalist for some morning birding, in search of birds that weren't found in yesterday's big bird count. We'll start at the Potawatomi Inn Main Lobby and head to lake Lonidaw to stir up the cattails for wintering wrens, sparrows, and thrushes. BB
- 1-4pm **Bird Banding Demonstrations.** This afternoon on the Nature Center Front Deck, guest interpretive naturalist John Schaust will band birds after first catching them in special nets set up in front of our feeding stations at the "Woodland Window." Come and stay for some or all of the banding. With the winter feeding stations in continuous action, we're ensured a "bird in the hand..." the entire time!

Saturday December 30

- 10:00am **A Pine Forest Pathway.** Take a refreshing break by hiking up into one of our dark green pine groves and searching for the life that occurs there. Join us at the Inn Main Entrance. We'll be out for a little over an hour.
- 2:00pm **Toboggan Jeopardy.** Meet in the warmth of the Nature Center Auditorium for some jeopardy with a Pokagon twist! We'll explore some of the toboggan history as well as it's popularity today! Join us! BB



Sunday December 31

- 8:30am **Last Bird Search of the Year!** See Sunday, December 3, for details. Join us! BB

Monday January 1

Happy New Year! Nature Center will be Closed Today